Rina Trepanier
Sales Representative
Experience Counts!
Visit all Rina's listings
www.rinat.ca
905-892-0222 • 905-734-4545
Direct 905-980-1199
E-mail: rinat@royallepage.ca
ROYAL LEPAGE
NIAGARA REAL ESTATE CENTRE, BROKERAGE
Independently owned and operated
27 Years of Award Winning Real Estate Sales

HOME DELIVERY CALL 905-732-2411 THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2015 www.pelhamnews.ca

Published by Sun Media Publishing Inc.

Pelham NEWS

A piece of history

QMI AGENCY PHOTO

Periodontist Dr. Peter Fritz plans to eventually hang a canoe that once belonged to Bill Mason in his office on Wednesday in Pelham. Please see story on page 2.

UPFRONT

■ CANOE

Bill Mason's canoe will have a home in Pelham

ALLAN BENNER
Tribune Staff

Dr. Peter Fritz was on a canoe trip in Algonquin Park in 1992 when he made a decision to enrol in dentistry school.

It was during another canoe trip that he chose to specialize as a periodontist, and yet another that he decided to propose to his wife.

In fact, he said most of the major decisions he made in his life were made amidst the serenity of quietly slipping through still waters aboard a canoe.

And the calm, relaxing ambiance that Fritz associates with being in a canoe inspired the decor of his Pelham office.

"I want my patients to feel the tranquillity and peace and I want them to feel comfortable here," he said.

A stained-glass window above the reception desk depicts a canoeist paddling through a forest, a full-size birch bark canoe hangs from the ceiling above the waiting room, a print of Tom Thompson's painting The Canoe hangs from the wall, and toy models of canoes are mounted from the ceiling above each of the patient examination chairs.

But the collection on display at his office isn't complete yet.

Fritz recalled learning to canoe long ago as a Boy Scout.

"It was great. It taught me what it is to be on a portage," he said. "Sometimes the voyage takes a lot of hard work and its uncomfortable, but when you get through the portage and to the other end, there are new adventures and wonderful things to see there."

SUPPLIED PHOTO

A scene from Bill Mason's National Film Board of Canada documentary Song of the Paddle, featuring the Queen Mary, the canoe recently purchased by Pelham periodontist Dr. Peter Fritz.

As an avid canoeist, Fritz also found inspiration in the work of Canadian naturalist, writer, artist and filmmaker Bill Mason, who died in 1988.

He said Mason's lifetime of work earned him a reputation as this country's guru of canoeing.

"I grew up reading his books and watching his movies through the National Film Board of Canada," Fritz said, referring to documentaries such as Rise and Fall of the Great Lakes and Song of the Paddle.

Fritz recently read an article in the Ottawa Citizen and learned that Mason's family had held an auction for some of his belongings, purchased by an Ottawa museum for future preservation.

"I thought, boy it'd be wonderful to have a piece of history that would resonate with my patients and that I could proudly display here and preserve," he said.

He called Mason's daughter Becky Mason, and learned that the Queen Mary, the 17-foot aluminium canoe that Mason used in Song of the Paddle, was being auctioned off as well.

Fritz paid $2,100 US for the 45-year-old canoe — a bargain considering its significance.

"I was a bit surprised that there wasn't more interest in it," Fritz said.

Fritz said he's planning to take the Queen Mary out for one last canoe trip with his family before he retires it.

"After I won the auction, my kids and I watched Song of the Paddle, which is where it's featured in. My plan is to take it on a canoe trip with the kids."

It will be given a prominent place in his office, mounted from the waiting room ceiling beside the displayed the birch bark canoe, once it arrives in a few weeks.

allan.benner@sunmedia.ca

LAMPMAN FUNERAL HOME
Our family serving your family since 1911
724 CANBORO ROAD, FENWICK

www.lampmanfuneralhome.com
Cremation and Burial Services
905-892-4701

LOCALNEWS

■ TEENS HURT

Arrest in Pelham crash

MARYANNE FIRTH
QMI Agency Niagara

Charges have been laid in what police describe as a hit-and-run in Pelham early Friday that sent a teenager to hospital with serious injuries.

At about 2:20 a.m., Niagara Regional Police, Pelham Fire Services and Niagara EMS responded to reports of a collision between a vehicle and pedestrians.

Four teenagers were walking westbound on Canboro from Church Hill toward Haist St. and had just crossed from the south sidewalk to the north boulevard.

At the same time, a 41-year-old Fonthill man was driving his 2005 Toyota Solaras west on Canboro Rd. The vehicle left the north edge of the roadway, entered the boulevard and struck two of the pedestrians, said Det. Adam Carter, of the NRP's collision reconstruction unit.

The vehicle then fled the scene, police say.

One of the pedestrians who was struck, a 17-year-old female, was thrown a significant distance during the collision. She was taken to a Niagara hospital and then transferred to a Hamilton Health Sciences hospital, where she remains in serious but stable condition.

The second pedestrian struck, an 18-year-old Fonthill male, was treated and released at the scene.

It was a civilian tip that led to the recovery of the Toyota police believe was involved, in Fenwick at about 7 a.m., Carter said.

Andersen Wormald, 41, is charged with failing to stop at the scene of an accident while causing bodily harm.

Wormald was held in custody pending a bail hearing.

The incident remains under investigation by the NRP's collision reconstruction unit with assistance from the forensic services unit and 3 District criminal investigation branch.

Police ask anyone with information to contact investigators at 905-735-7811, ext. 5500.

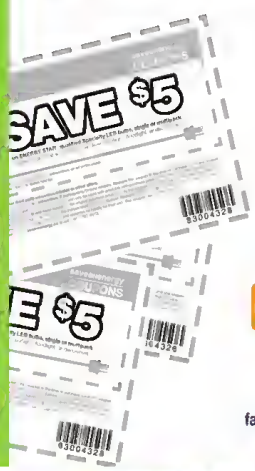
MARYANNE FIRTH/QMI AGENCY NIAGARA

Niagara Regional Police closed Canboro Rd. between Church Hill and Haist St. Friday following a hit-and-run incident.

Savings²

When using the saveONenergy coupons you'll save twice. At the time of purchase and savings on your electricity bill.

Visit www.npei.ca/coupons and download your coupons today!



A CENTURY OF POWER 1915 - 2015

Niagara Falls Hydro

npei niagara peninsula energy inc.

Connect and Conserve With Us!
facebook.com/npeihydro
Twitter @npeihydro
www.npei.ca

PAUL'S
Garden Centre and Gift Store
Premium Product Great Service
Fair Prices ....Always!

IT'S TIME TO GREEN UP YOUR LAWN
Buy your 4 step Fertilizer Program
and save 10% Plus FREE Weed B Gon

Ask us about our Premium quality Grass Seed to get even better result this Spring!

*Sale applies to any combination of 4 bags of fertilizer

EARLY SPRING CHECKLIST
- Apply dormont oil to fruit trees, roses ornomental shrubs
- Top up beds with soil & mulches
- Apply slow release fertilizer to trees & shrubs
- Amend problematic soil with lime or gypsum
- Fertilize & overseed lawn

www.paulsgardencentre.com | OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK MON-SAT 9AM-6PM, SUN 10AM-4PM • 103 Shaw Street, Welland (Corner of Prince Charles) • 905-732-5123

Pelham NEWS
SUN MEDIA
A Quebecor Media Company

COMMENT

Published by PelhamNEWS, Sun Media Corp.
228 East Main St., Welland, ON L3B 5P5
Tel: 905-732-2414 ext.246 Fax: 905-732-3660
e-mail: welland.tribune@sunmedia.ca
John Tobon, PUBLISHER, PRINT & DIGITAL
Peter Conradi, MANAGING EDITOR

■ COLUMN

Pelham's 2015 residential taxes to increase by 0.8%

DAVE AUGUSTYN
Special to QMI Agency

As I wrote about last week, at our March 26 Regional Council meeting, we approved the 2015 Property Tax Rates and Tax Ratios. These rates and ratios apply to all property tax classes across all Cities, Towns, and Townships throughout Region.

What does it mean for Pelham?

The amount of property tax you pay to the Town of Pelham, to the Region, and to the Province (for Education) is not only based on the Market Value Assessment of your property; we multiply your assessment by each of the tax rates and add them up for your total bill.

You may recall that 2013 was a "reassessment" year. That means that the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) – the Provincial body that sets a value your home and property – re-evaluated and assessed all properties in the Province as of January 1, 2012. While this amount will be used as the value of your home in 2016, MPAC phases in any assessment increases evenly over a four-year period. The Town uses that changing assessment value when we calculate your property taxes each year.

When Town Council approved our 2015 Budget on February 17, we anticipated that the Pelham portion of your property tax bill would increase by 1.9%.

Now that the Region (+1.6%) and the Province (-2.3%) set their rates, we know that the combined property tax increase for an average residential property (valued at $302,815) in Pelham will be 0.8% or approximately $32. We anticipate this increase to be the lowest or second lowest in Niagara Region again this year.

The average increase of property taxes on your combined residential property tax bill for the last five years was 1.3% (total increase 6.9%). This was the "pocket-book" increase – the amount it cost an average residential property owner by adjusting for the average MPAC increase.

How do we measure whether that is "good" or not? Another important comparator would be inflation. Inflation for the last five-year period was 8.5% or an average of 1.6% per year.

I hope you too are pleased that our residential tax increases have been 1.6% below inflation for the last five years. Please see the chart for more information.

Pelham Council and I continue to direct staff to ensure that we only minimally impact you and other property tax-payers while we increase the level and quality of services to the Town.

You may contact Mayor Dave at mayordave@pelham.ca or read past columns at www.pelhammayordave.blogspot.com.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fort Levis at Sorel, Que., on Jan. 18, 1976, in a photo by Rene Beauchamp.

Shipwrecks – Fort Levis

SKIP GILLHAM
QMI Agency Niagara

The small coastal freighter Fort Levis spent 30-years in Canadian service under three different names. It was built at Lauzon, Quebec, in 1962 and initially sailed as Polaris Explorer. While most comfortable serving ports along the north shore of the St. Lawrence, the vessel was a Seaway trader in 1967.

It was sold to Agence Maritime in 1970 and renamed Fort Levis. Its work changed little and the ship made its only other visit to the Great Lakes in 1977. Three years later, the vessel was resold to Puddister Trading for Newfoundland service and operated as Marine Eagle until it was "sold foreign" in May 1992.

Available work for ships only 49.8 metre long, the size of this vessel, was evaporating around Canada but, a buyer for the still sound hull was found in May 1992. Fort Levis was renamed and headed south as Christopher Marine for service under the flag of Honduras. It was renamed Altagrace Marine on Feb. 14, 1995, but was lost two years later. The ship was reported to have sunk near Tolu, Colombia, during the week ending March 16, 1997, but no other details of its loss seem to be available.

■ SUSPICIOUS BLAZES CONTINUE

Another night of fires in rural west Niagara

GREG FURMINGER
QMI Agency Niagara

Another night of suspicious blazes has occurred in West Lincoln and the rural east Hamilton area.

This comes after several structures in the vicinity — including on a same road — were reduced to asbes three weeks earlier.

This Sunday, West Lincoln firefighters were dispatched to 9438 South Chippawa Rd, near Abingdon Rd. at 11:04 p.m.

Niagara Regional Police Sgt. David Maniaci, of the Grimsby detachment, said the barn was actively used for farming.

While some police and firefighters were en route, another fire was spotted further west, he said.

St. Catharines dispatch reported that firefighters were sent to 9033 South Chippawa Rd. seven minutes past midnight for a small shed fire.

Maniaci said that building had been abandoned.

The Office of the Ontario Fire Marshal was called to investigate, he said.

No injuries were reported.

At about 12:30 a.m. Monday, Hamilton firefighters responded to a barn blaze at 6081 Trimble Rd. in Glanbrook.

Earlier Sunday morning, an abandoned home at 406 Tapleytown Rd. went up in flames. Hamilton firefighters were dispatched just after 9:30 a.m.

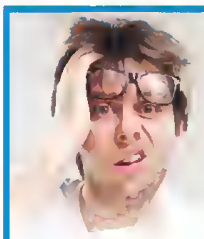
This Sunday's series of overnight night fires calls into question whether they are linked to a rash of fires overnight March 14 and 15 in West Lincoln and Binbrook — including two others also on South Chippawa Rd.

Maniaci would not say if police believe the two nights of fires are related, but would say that that is being investigated.

"It's being looked into," he said Monday afternoon.

On Saturday, March 14, West Lincoln firefighters were dispatched at 11:32 p.m. to Vaughan Rd. immediately west of Port Davidson Rd., where fire destroyed an abandoned house and barn-like structure.

Firefighters were alerted about 20 minutes later to second fire a few kilometres southwest at 8748 South Chippawa Rd., near North Chippawa Rd. That blaze destroyed an abandoned barn that sat just west of an old farmhouse with boarded up windows.



Start your day with focus!

At Lasik Provision, laser vision correction is viewed as an art form. Dr. Andrew Taylor has hand selected an experienced team of individuals who are constantly striving to provide the finest in all aspects of your lasik experience.

Dr. Andrew Taylor will personally perform your laser eye surgery. He has been serving the residents of South Western Ontario and the Northern United States for over 20 years. He can draw upon a personal experience of having performed over 100,000 successful lasik procedures to achieve the results you desire. Lasik Provision has superior technology and Dr. Andrew Taylor has personally used every major laser platform that is used in North America today. He lectures internationally in the field of laser eye surgery and on laser platforms. He is involved in the regulatory studies for the approval of new devices and procedures.

Dr. Andrew Taylor has chosen the Zeiss MEL 80TM Excimer laser and the Visumax Femtosecond Laser as his preferred platform. Carl Zeiss is internationally renowned for their expertise in optics, their lenses are likely to be the ones you use at home in your cameras. Carl Zeiss Meditec utilizes advanced engineering profiles which produce superlative, predictable refractive outcomes which is what you want as a refractive eye patient.

Your eyes are precious and Dr. Andrew Taylor looks forward to providing you with a level and care that exceeds your expectations. Life was not meant to be viewed through glasses or contact lenses; life is about freedom. With these new technological breakthroughs, there has never been a better and safer time to experience the freedom so many millions of people have enjoyed with laser eye surgery.

FREE
Designer Polarized Sunglasses to compliment your new vision on first time surgery only
For all procedures booked by Nov April 30, 2015

BONUS
Receive as an added bonus initial post-op drops goggles and a 3 year vision care plan valued at $350
All procedures booked by April 30, 2015

FREE Preliminary Eye Exam
Until April 30, 2015
LASIK PROVISION'S GIFT TO YOU!
To see if you are a candidate for Lasik Surgery

BOOK NOW!
LIMITED TIME OFFER

See Now, Pay Later! $0 DOWN 0% INTEREST

PROVISION
LASIK & CATARACT CENTRE

1-888-510-2020 | 905-371-3217
www.lasikprovision.com
6800 Morrison Street,
Niagara Falls, Ontario

DR. ANDREW W. TAYLOR
M.D. F.R.C.S C, Dip. A.B.O

Want to Get Healthy ? Add Fish Oil to Your Diet

The Omega fats found in fish oil are incredibly good for you...

As a matter of fact, very few of us eat enough fish. The health benefits of eating fish, especially fish rich in omega-3 essential fatty acids (EFAs), is very well documented.

Fish oil has been proven to reduce the risk of heart disease, cancer, Alzheimer's and dementia. It also belps to relieve depression and arthritis, assist in fat metabolism and promote younger looking skin. Japanese people, the world's largest fisb consuming nation, know all about the benefits of fish oil. The Japanese experience the lowest rate of heart attacks in the world and they have extremely low levels of obesity and diabetes.

Fish oils are derived from the fat of deep-sea, cold water fish and are a natural source of Omega-3 EFAs. Omega-3 is an essential nutrient needed to help maintain a healthy brain and nervous system. Fish oils contribute to a healthy heart function, joint flexibility as well as supporting your brain, nerve, and visual functions.

There has been a tremendous amount of research and a lot of news and media coverage about the health benefits of Omega-3's. DHA and EPA are the active forms of Omega-3's. They are two long-chain Omega-3 EFAs that are used by the body to help control inflammation and to help maintain a healthy brain and nervous system. A good fish oil will supply your body these important fatty acids.

BioOmega-3 is our most popular fish oil. BioOmega-3 is a superior fish oil with a balanced EPA/DHA ratio. It is ideal for children, adults, and seniors. BioOmega-3 bas over 1600 mg of Omega-3s. That is a goodly amount of EFAs and it is incredibly good for you.

For more info about Bio Omega-3, visit Rosemary's Natural Choices

500 mL

Sale... $31.99

Sale ends April 22nd

PLUS a FREE cup of coffee ! Drop into Rosemary's and enjoy a cup of organic, fair trade coffee. Joe, Brenda, Diana, Sue and Susan have been keeping Wellanders healthy for over 20 years. Good health, natural remedies, great people and free coffee. It doesn't get any better than that.

Rosemary's Natural Choices

95 Lincoln Street
in St. Charles Plaza
Phone (905) 714-0586
www.rosemarysnaturalchoices.com

Info is for reference only. For specific health issues consult your local natural health practitioner.

Kevin Robins

Kevin is a trusted source of legal advice in the Niagara region handling matters related to estate planning and administration, including wills and powers of attorney. Kevin is also expert in the practice of collaborative family law, separation agreements; marriage and cohabitation contracts.

L B & W

Lancaster Brooks & Welch
Lawyers since 1882
80 King St Ste. 800, St Catharines ON
905-641-1551 or email krobins@lbwlawyers.com www.lbwlawyers.com

We're Back! at Gallaghers
Gallaghers Farm Market
Fresh Baked Pies and Bread
LOCAL GREAT TASTING TOMATOES ARE BACK!
SPRING FLOWERS
HYDRANGEAS
HYACINTH
EASTER LILIES
DAFFODILLS
CUT FLOWERS
TULIPS
MIXED PANS
CROCUS
POTTED MUMS
LOCAL APPLES
GET THEM WHILE THEY LAST
MUTSU MAC EMPIRE IDA RED
FRESH APPLE CIDER
LOCAL 25LB CARROTS $4.99
SEASONED FIREWOOD AVAILABLE
346 HWY 20 WEST, FONTHILL (BESIDE E.L. CROSSLEY S.S.)
905-892-0698 • OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • 8AM TO 7PM
• www.gallaghersfarmmarket.com

IN BRIEF

Police searching for crash witness

Police are searching for a woman who may have witnessed a crash in Pelham on Friday, March 27.

At 11:59 p.m., a collision occurred between two cars at the intersection of Quaker Rd. and Line Ave.

One driver was injured and the other driver was arrested for impaired driving offences.

Niagara Regional Police are trying to locate a female who was at the scene and may have observed the charged driver's actions as the crash occurred.

The woman, who was alone in the vehicle, drove through the scene immediately after the incident and spoke with a citizen who was assisting the injured driver.

She is described as white, 45 to 50 years with blond hair. She may have been driving a silver Mercedes.

She was travelling westbound on Quaker Rd. behind the driver who was charged.

Anyone with information is asked to call 905-735-7811, ext. 3300.

Forster brings hospital report to Queen's Park

In light of a recent Ontario Health Coalition commissioned report released earlier this week, Welland MPP Cindy Forster is calling on the provincial government to rethink its "shortsighted" plans to replace five Niagara hospitals with a single new facility.

"Today, we are calling on the Minister of Health, to re-evaluate the closures currently planned for the Niagara Health System," Forster during a media conference Thursday morning at Queen's Park, held to discuss the report called Niagara Health System: Under Threat, by John Lister — an international health policy expert from Coventry University and Director of London Emergency Health.

Forster said the Liberal government "has a responsibility to ensure that our publicly funded health care system is transparent and needs to be held accountable for putting Niagara's healthcare on the line."

Two arrested, drugs seized in Welland bust

Two arrests were made and more than $35,000 in drugs seized following a police investigation in Welland.

In March, members of the Niagara Regional Police Welland street crime unit began investigating a male selling drugs from a Niagara St. apartment complex.

SAVE 75% OFF THE NEWSSTAND PRICE
Family Fun
with your subscription to
wellandtribune.ca THE TRIBUNE
ONLY $84 FOR 26 WEEKS
Enjoy convenient home delivery of
The Welland Tribune
And receive a one year subscription to your choice of Penny Press/Dell Puzzles
Enjoy your newspaper combo for as little as
$13.33**/month
e-pay
Call toll free today
1.855.533.5594
Offer valid to new subscribers only who have not had home delivery in the last 30 days. 26 weeks of home delivery plus your choice of one of these quality puzzle booklets with your newspaper subscription, Pocket Fill in Puzzles-6 issues a year, Best Easy Crossword-9 issues a year, Finest Favorite Word Seek-6 issues a year & Totally Top Choice Sudoku-6 issues a year. Price includes HST. Offer is valid only where home delivery is available not available in all areas and may not be used in conjunction with any other offer. Please allow 8-10 weeks for mail delivery of your selected puzzle booklet. Credit Card Payment Option only offer is non-refundable. Total obligation $80.00 + $4.00 tax=$84.00. EZPay payment of $13.33+ tax, billed every 4 weeks. Offer expires June 28th, 2015

PROVISION
LASIK & CATARACT CENTRE
1-888-510-2020
905-371-3217
www.lasikprovision.com
6800 Morrison Street, Niagara Falls, Ontario

Pelham NIAGARA

The LOG·CABIN
155 Hwy 20 West Fonthill 905-892-3997
www.thelogcabin.ca

pelham.ca | 20 Pelham Town Square, PO Box 400, Fonthill, ON | 905-892-2607 | 905-892-5055

Recreation Programs & Classes

Zumba Classes @ Pelham Arena

Tuesday, April 14	9:30 –10:30am
Tuesday, April 14	7:00 – 8:00pm
Wednesday, April 15	7:30 – 8:30pm
Thursday, April 16	10:00—11:00am

Walking Club - Everyone is welcome! – April 14 & April 16

Interested in joining a Walking Club? Then join ours! Tuesdays at Pelham Arena from 9–10am &Thursdays at Fonthill Bandshell from 9–10:30am. For more info, contact (905) 892-2607 ext. 329.

It's time to start thinking about SUMMER!

Bring on the sunshine and fun times at the 2015 **Pelham Summer Camps & Community Pool!**

Registration opens for all **camps and aquatics** for residents on April 15th and non-residents on April 29th.

Visit **pelham.ca** for details and to register online.

Volunteers needed

Community clean-up days

GARBAGE BAGS, GLOVES & SAFETY VESTS PROVIDED!

CORPORATE CHALLENGE DAY
Thursday, April 24, 2015
Local businesses are you up for a challenge?
Please register your business at pelham.ca

STUDENT PARTICIPATION DAY
Friday, April 25, 2015
Student and teachers help do your part in cleaning up your schoolyard/street! Please register your school at pelham.ca

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY
Saturday, April 26, 2015
Residents can register at pelham.ca or come to Centennial Park (999 Church Street, Fenwick) on Saturday, April 26 from 9:00am until noon to participate. A barbeque lunch will be provided.

Thank You to Our Sponsors
The Fabulous Fenwick Lions & Tim Hortons

Pelham

Shall we dance?

Join us for an instructor-led

Pelham Ballroom Social

Saturday, April 18th, 2015, 7-10pm
Old Pelham Town Hall
(491 Canboro Road, Ridgeville)

TICKETS $10 Complimentary coffee, tea & water

Visit pelham.ca for more info or call 905-892-2607 ext. 329.

Calling All Vendors – We're Accepting Applications

2015 Pelham Supper Market
Visit **pelham.ca/supper-market** for details & to apply by April 17, 2015.

2015 Pelham Summerfest
Visit pelhamsummerfest.ca/vendors for details & to apply by May 16, 2015.

Come Chill on the Hill Pelham Summerfest

NEW Ballroom Dance Lessons

Pelham NIAGARA

Learn the Rumba & Foxtrot

Shall we dance?

Mondays, April 13th to June 22nd, 2015 | 7–8pm & 8-9pm
At newly renovated Old Pelham Town Hall in Ridgeville (491 Canboro Road)
Adult couples or singles of all ages – no dance experience or partner required
$80.00 per person/10 week session (no class on Victoria Day May 18, 2015)
For more info, contact Julie Cook at jcook@pelham.ca or (905) 892-2607 ext. 329.
Register online with ActiveNet at pelham.ca

BE AN EVERYDAY HERO, BE A VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER!

PELHAM FIRE RESCUE

Are you interested in:

- ☐ contributing to your community?
- ☐ learning new life skills?
- ☐ making some extra money?

Then join the Pelham Volunteer Fire Fighters!
Visit **pelham.ca/career-opportunities** to apply by Friday, April 24, 2015.

BERTIE AND CLINTON
MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

DECLARES A 20% REFUND ON 2014 PREMIUMS

Front row from left to right, Racheal Siciliano (General Manager/CEO), Larry Hipple (President of the Board) receiving a refund cheque from Lloyd Roseboom (Vice-President of the Board), Domenic Ioannoni (Director) and David Gill (Director). Back row from left to right, John Dekker (Director), David Wiley (Director), Phillip Lambert (Director), Brian Heaslip (Director) and Howard Augustine (Director) at Bertie and Clinton's head office.

Bertie and Clinton is a local Mutual Insurance Company that specializes in providing farm insurance to its owning members. By insuring with the company, you can also become a part owner and have a voice in how the company is run. Recently, the company declared a refund from surplus of 20% on property, liability and automobile premiums in 2014. Approximately $2,370,000 was refunded to the policyholders provided they had been insured for at least one year and their policy was in force at December 31, 2014. Bertie and Clinton has declared a refund from surplus in eighteen of the last twenty-two years and has provided insurance for the Niagara Peninsula residents since 1880.

The company is run by nine directors who are elected by the policyholders at the Annual meeting. Each of the nine directors are elected for a three year term, with three being elected each year. At our 135th Annual Meeting held March 31, 2015 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Fonthill. Brian Heaslip of Wellandport and Lloyd Roseboom of Port Colborne were re-elected as Directors and John Dekker of Port Colborne was also elected as a Director, for a three year term.

Larry Hipple of Beamsville was elected to serve the company as the President of the Board and Lloyd Roseboom of Port Colborne will serve the company as Vice-President of the Board, for the 2015-2016 year. Racheal Siciliano of Welland is the General Manager/CEO.

Effective March 1, 2015, one of our Agents, Dale Hagar, has begun his well-deserved Retirement. Mr. Hagar was a Board of Director from 1977 to 1986, serving as President of the Board in 1981. From 1986 to 2015, Mr. Hagar served as an Agent for Bertie and Clinton. We would like to thank Dale for his dedication to Bertie and Clinton Mutual and we wish him the very best on his Retirement. Judi Black of Welland bas been hired as an Agent to service some of Mr. Hagar's Policyholders. We are also currently searching for another candidate to help in servicing Mr. Hagar's Policyholders.

We have currently updated and redesigned our Website and we also now provide credit card payments on line. Please do visit our new website at www.bertieandclinton.com

Bertie and Clinton Mutual has Agents throughout the Niagara Peninsula. If you require insurance on a Farm, Home, Auto or a Commercial activities in the Niagara Peninsula, please contact us at

Bertie & Clinton MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

1789 Merrittville Hwy., R.R.#2 Welland.
905-892-0606 or 1-800-263-0494.
Fax 905-892-0365
www.bertieandclinton.com

LOCALNEWS

■ ENVIRONMENT

BOB TYMCZYSZYN/QMI AGENCY NIAGARA

A group of people protest the deer hunt at the Pelham Rd entrance to Short Hills Conservation Area in this file photo.

Short Hills hunt cost $60,000

DON FRASER
Standard Staff

The cost is in for the most recent aboriginal deer hunt at Short Hills Provincial Park.

A ministry spokesman says a total of $61,958 was spent for the six-day harvest by members of the Haudenosaunee Aboriginal community.

At the time, Ontario Parks staff members and conservation officers were reported to be stationed in and around Short Hills during the hunt, including at both official and known unofficial entrances.

Niagara Regional Police and OPP were also on site to offer assistance.

Of the ministry costs, $19,286 was for salaries, $32,750 for accommodation and meals and $9,923 in miscellaneous costs such as signs and use of an ATV.

John Salo from the provincial ministry of natural resources and forestry said a total of 67 ministry staff were involved throughout the harvest, with about 45 staff on site daily during the hunt last November and December.

Salo said additional ministry staff were required "to ensure public and harvester safety at Short Hills Provincial Park due to an increased number of protesters."

He said the ministry is "committed to meeting its constitutional obligations respecting Aboriginal and treaty rights. Public safety is the top priority during the traditional Aboriginal harvest at Short Hills."

The hunt has been controversial with concerns ranging from safety to the appropriateness of the hunt, with members of the Short Hills Wildlife Alliance taking the lead in protesting.

Treaty rights allow Haudenosaunee aboriginal hunters into the park, which is closed to others during that time. They are allowed to kill deer by bow and arrow, with the first hunt taking place in 2003.

The Haudenosaunee say the hunt is conducted safely and professionally by bow-and-arrow.

It is also argued by native spokespeople and others the deer population in the park is higher than the ecosystem can sustain.

"I'm disappointed the Ontario Parks and the ministry of natural resources is willing to spend this kind of money to (allow for the hunting) of deer in a provincial park," said Robin Zavitz, a member of the Short Hills alliance.

"I thoroughly disappointed the ministry has not reconsidered this, with all the opposition they have in Niagara," Zavitz said. "There's got to be other options."

St. Catharines MPP Jim Bradley was unavailable for comment by publication time.

don.fraser@sunmedia.ca
Twitter @don_standard

LOCALNEWS

Be wary of campaign promises to reduce taxes

GRANT LAFLECHE
QMI Agency Niagara

"I'm here to save the taxpayers money!" That is a refrain voters have heard since the first democracy in ancient Athens. There isn't an election that passes when some politician doesn't promise you they'll fight the fatcats and the bureaucrats to bring the spending of public money under control.

If you just vote for them, they say, they will reduce your taxes and stop wasteful spending.

The truth, though, is that not only is the promise often empty, it is usually nowhere near as easy to achieve as the rhetoric would have you believe.

Despite what the politicians say, reducing public spending, and therefore taxes, is complicated with less wiggle room than you'd think.

Frankly, I don't envy anyone who chooses to grapple with reducing public spending because it is a hideously difficult task.

Take the Niagara Regional Police budget, by way of a for instance.

It's a pig — $134 million and rising.

For context, when I started covering the NRP back in the late 1990s, it was a big deal that the police budget had creeped over $100 million. It's obviously continued to grow ever since.

It is so big that every year the service, the police board and the regional government do this nearly pointless budget square dance. The police submit a budget, the regional council says it is too big, demands cuts be made, and then the police do a bit of trimming here or there and SHAZAM! another budget passes.

The thing is all that hand wringing and debate doesn't ever do very much to save you, the tax-paying citizen, any real money.

Why? Because most of the police budget — even as it grows — is essentially fixed and all things being as they are, there isn't much any politician can do about it.

More than 90% of the NRP budget is consumed on human resources — salaries and benefits. Those figures are established through collective bargaining and there is no real way to reopen or rip up these contracts.

Then there is the costs of doing the things police are mandated to do, such as patrol Niagara's waterways even though many are technically federal government property.

On top of that you have the necessary costs of replacing equipment, cars, weapons and uniforms, along with the ever rising expense of police investigations.

A couple of complex homicide or drug trafficking investigations and the NRP can burn through its overtime budget, and there is no guarantee the next crime won't require that kind of investment in resources to solve.

After that, there is a tiny bit of money for things that police might want but don't need, or capital projects that can be deferred or cancelled. We're talking only a few million dollars which, given the mammoth size of the budget, isn't really that significant.

That is where the annual budget cuts are made, but they do nothing to stem the rising costs of policing, nor really do much to reduce the annual tax levy.

Ultimately, if you wanted to cut back on the cost of local policing, you'd have to hit that 90%. Which means you'd have to slash salaries or reduce the size of the service.

And good luck with that. No politician with any common sense or understanding of how policing works would venture down that road.

I mention all of this because the current police board is made up of members who have stated, repeatedly, they are there to save money for the taxpayer and bring police spending "under control."

Weirdly, though, no one has established that spending is out of control, other than to point out that policing is expensive. Which really isn't an argument.

The only way to really reduce costs long term is to invent an entirely new way of funding and operating police departments. That kind of rethinking may well be inevitable and necessary as the overall tax burden becomes increasingly untenable.

Trouble is, I've not heard anything particularly innovative from a board with key members seemingly unclear on where its authority begins and ends.

So at the moment, all the talk about reining in police spending is pointless noise.

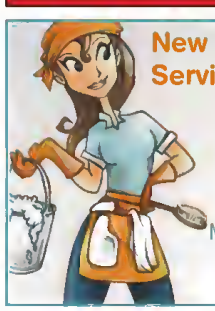
It's just a lot of screaming into a hurricane.

Richard Brown
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
ROYAL LEPAGE
Niagara Real Estate Centre
Brokerage Independently Owned & Operated
Office: 905-892-0222
Cell: 905-651-5143
rbrown@royallepage.ca
www.homesniagara.com
637 Niagara St., Unit #2 Welland, Ontario
"Selling Throughout Niagara"

JOIN the FUN at WHISKY RUN

WIN a FREE MEMBERSHIP
visit www.whiskyrun.com to enter
Whisky Run Golf Club
"Niagara's Friendliest Golf Course"
Get your membership at Whisky Run before April 18th and you could Win Your Membership at our Molson Tee Off Party on April 18th, 2015, 6pm-9pm.
League Memberships starting at $175
Summer, Owl Nine, or Daily After 4 Memberships $440
Mon.-Thurs., Fri.-Sun. or Daily After 12 $590
Corporate Memberships @ $650 per person
LEAGUE MEETINGS
APRIL 13, 14, 15 & 16
Complimentary snacks & beverages....
details at WHISKYRUN.COM
VOTED FAVOURITE GOLF COURSE IN NIAGARA
READERS CHOICE
905.835.6864 or
1.877.835.6868
www.whiskyrun.com
631 Lorraine Rd., Port Colborne

We'll give you something to SMILE about!
• Full & Partial Dentures • Free Consultation
• Full Upper & Lower Dentures • Using Advanced Pin Tracing Accuracy
• Same Day Repairs & Relines
Norbert Gieger DD
188-A West St. Port Colborne
905-835-2155


New Beginnings Cleaning Service
Susan Raymond
Owner/Operator
Call now to Book your Appointment
Mature, Dependable, Experienced
Call today
Cell 905-933-2859

Temperatures are Rising!

CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE ON A FURNACE & AIR CONDITIONING PACKAGE
REBATES AVAILABLE
WE SERVICE ALL MAKES & MODELS!
BOB REID
Heating & Air Conditioning
Residential - Commercial
905-892-7787
Maintenance on Furnaces & Air Conditioning
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED
Now Accepting VISA

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/PelhamNews

LOCALNEWS

FREE MOVIE NIGHT
All are invited to attend our Movie Night featuring
"Hell and Mr. Fudge"
A young preacher dedicates a year of his life to prove whether or not hell really exists
Thursday, April 23rd at 6:30pm
Glad Tidings Church of God
1 Pancake Lane in Fonthill
905-892-5122
Free Admission
Free popcorn and Refreshments!
Like us on Facebook
gladtidingschurchofgod.com

Don Marco's
Italian Eatery
Fresh Homemade Handmade Made To Order
SENIOR TUESDAYS
10% OFF
Order any food item from our regular menu and receive 10% OFF
DATE NIGHT WEDNESDAYS
TWO CAN DINE WITH $49
Two can enjoy a four course dinner and a glass of wine or draft
PASTA FIX SUNDAYS
Order any pasta from our menu and get a complimentary homemade soup or house salad and garlic bread with cheese
*After 4pm - Dine-in Only
LUNCH MENU from $7.95
With your choice of homemade soup, house salad or fresh cut fries
"Don Marco's ..... It's all about the food"
248 WELLINGTON ST. WELLAND, ON 905-714-4417 DONMARCOS.CA
• Tues. – Thurs & Sun 11:30 – 9:00 • Fri 11:30 – 10:00 • Sat 4:00 – 10:00 • Closed Monday

COMMUNITY

Flags to be raised for autism awareness

CHRISTOPHER BREEN
Special to QMI Agency Niagara

Raise, respect and realize.

Those three words represent what World Autism Awareness Day, intends to accomplish around the globe.

Autism Ontario will host its third annual Raise the Flag awareness campaign today.

"Raise. Respect. Realize. That's really what we're trying to do on World Autism Awareness Day," Jordan Shaw, communication and volunteer coordinator for Autism Ontario Niagara Chapter, said. "We raise the flag to show respect, love and support and make a promise that everyone can realize their full potential." Flag raisings will take place at city and town halls across the region throughout the day, including Welland, Fort Erie and Niagara Falls at 9 a.m.; Port Colborne and Niagara-on-the-Lake at 10 a.m.; Grimsby and West Lincoln at noon, and Wainfleet and St. Catharines at 2 p.m.

"Raising awareness is important because caring and supportive communities can only be formed when everyone in that community works together," Shaw said.

"By educating the public about autism and the challenges faced by these families dealing with autism, we can work to support them."

There will be a flag raising at the Pen Centre in St. Catharines at 11 a.m., with schools across Niagara also following suit at various times to raise awareness in their communities.

Stacey Edgar, a volunteer with the local Autism Ontario chapter, will be raising the flag at St. Catharines city hall.

"(This is) excellent because there is so much about autism that is not known," said Edgar, who has a son with Asperger's Syndrome, an autism spectrum disorder.

"The thing that people (think) they know when you talk to them is usually false."

Although she worked with people who have autism, Edgar didn't immediately recognize the signs in her own son.

Others in the autism community are equally happy to see events that raise awareness.

"It's fantastic to see autism awareness put in the spotlight," Alexander Parker, founder of Jigsaw: An Autism Community, said.

"Niagara has some of the highest rates of autism in Canada."

Parker who is also a group leader and counsellor with Autism Ontario, said he started Jigsaw because the rate of juvenile autism in the region is high.

To show support, Autism Ontario is asking people to wear red. For the organization, the colour represents the passion and strength that exists to bring autism awareness to the forefront, not only on World Autism Awareness Day, but throughout the year as well.

The Raising the Flag initiative encourages communities and nations to promote early diagnosis and intervention.

"(We need) to help siblings and parents break free from feeling helpless and isolated," Parker said. "Information, knowledge, shared strategies and new ideas help the autism community grow tighter and stronger."

When the electricity fails...
How will you be AFFECTED?
Custom Designed Stand-by Power Installations to Suit Your Needs
Cornell Feenstra Electric Ltd.
All Types of Electrical Installation
Pole Line Installation & Aerial Bucket Truck Service
Call: 905-899-2373 • Fax: 905-899-2383

■ POVERTY

Niagara getting extra money to fight homelessness

CHERYL CLOCK
QMI Agency Niagara

Two years, and an extra $3.78 million to help the homeless in Niagara.

It offers some assurance that the province is taking the problem of homelessness seriously, says Katherine Chislett, commissioner of community services for Niagara Region.

The announcement increases the provincial contribution to homelessness services in Niagara to $6.89 million per year – an additional $1.89 million annually -- through the Community Homelessness Prevention Iniative.

And what's even better, is the two-year commitment, says Chislett.

"We weren't expecting this investment," she says.

"It demonstrates a strong commitment when you consider (the province's) budget constraints, that they're continuing to invest in homelessness.

"It really shows they're putting their money where their policies are."

Last year, the province gave the usual $5 million, then announced late in the fall it would give another $1.89 million to Niagara, to be spent by the end of this month.

Another two years of that is promising, she says.

On any given night in Niagara, there are at least 300 people across Niagara living outdoors, in an emergency shelter or in transitional housing. And there are likely many more, unidentified, living outside, couch surfing or in programs not funded by the region, she says.

And consider these facts:

Since 2008, the region has seen a 50% increase in people receiving Ontario Works.

There are about 22,000 people on OW in Niagara.

13% of all the working-age people in Niagara are on assistance -- Ontario Works, Ontario Disability Support Program, or Employment Insurance.

Existing programs will continue. Think shelters, housing help centres, street outreach and transitional housing. Long-term plans will be created, on how to spend the extra money, says Chislett.

"There's lots of room to be creative and make good service investments," she says.

Those ideas will be taken to the Public Health and Social Services Committee at the region on May 12, then sent to the province and regional council for approval.

The province will also give Niagara $4.78 million this fiscal year for affordable housing, through a separate program.

Homelessness needs to be addressed in two ways – emergency shelters for people in crisis and longer-term solutions to find homes for people who are chronically homeless, and supports to stop them from sliding back, says Chislett.

Shelters are the most expensive part of all homeless programs, says Chislett. One bed in an emergency shelter costs $1,600 a month.

"We have to help people break the cycle of homelessness," she says.

"You can't end homelessness if you only focus on crisis supports. But you need them because emergencies happen.

"But you need to pay attention to prevention and helping people get out."

DOWN TOWN WELLAND
A PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY
Downtown Welland
PLEASE SUPPORT THE LOCAL MERCHANTS
PALAZZO Salon & Spa
91 East Main Street
905-735-4025
MANI-PEDI ON THE ROCKS!
For the Month Of April
HOT STONE MANICURE & PEDICURE only $78 +hst
*Certain conditions apply
Follow Us On
"where your pedicure safety is our priority!"
"View all promotions here www.palazzosalon.com"

LOCALNEWS

Apply For A DAVID CARD & Receive 6 MONTH NO PAYMENTS OAC see us for details
DAVID Chevrolet Corvette Buick GMC Welland
Like Never Before!
Hurry In! SPRING SPECIAL ENDS MAY 31/15
Certified Service
Get ROAD READY
Get ROAD READY Package
INCLUDES:
MULTI-POINT VEHICLE INSPECTION
OIL CHANGE
PLUS TWO FREE WIPER BLADES
ONLY $79.95 + TAX
REG $89.95 + TAX (synthetic oils & diesel extra) Expires May 31/15
GREAT VALUE includes DEXOS Oils For Newer Model Vehicles
COOLANT FLUSH
ONLY $89.95
PREVENT OVER HEATING
Reg $114.95 plus tax
(expires May 31/15)
*FLUSH Radiator Fluid With Fresh Fluid..Includes Fluid Conditioner
WITH ANY 4 TIRES PURCHASED RECEIVE 1 FREE SEASON OF TIRE STORAGE ($29.95 value) & SAVE 20% OFF 4 Wheel Alignment
(expires May 31/15)
PURCHASE ANY WIPER BLADE RECEIVE 2ND WIPER BLADE FREE (with any other purchase) (OEM/AC Delco)
(expires May 31/15)
TRANSMISSION FLUSH
ONLY $139.95
KEEP YOUR SHIFTS SMOOTH
(expires May 31/15) plus tax
*FLUSH Transmission Fluid With Fresh Fluid..
FREE BRAKE INSPECTION
15% OFF PARTS & LABOUR On New Brake Pads & Rotors
DID YOU KNOW?
Your 2011 or newer GM vehicle requires special oil ?
Do not take a chance with your warranty by using the wrong oils.
BRING YOUR VEHICLE TO THE EXPERTS AT DAVIDS
OUR SERVICE DEPT
Has 13 GM Trained Technicians & 7 GM Grand 2 Master Technicians All Ready To Serve You!
SINCE 1991
DAVID Chevrolet Corvette Buick GMC Welland
Voted Platinum in Auto Repair & Service
Like Never Before!
Voted #1 by Tribune Readers
915 Niagara Street, Welland
ph. 905-735-5230
or 905-735-3690
email: info@davidchev.com
www.davidchev.com
www.davidchevpreowned.com

EVERY 2015 MODEL COMES WITH 2 YEARS/40,000 KM COMPLIMENTARY OIL CHANGES

DAVID CHEVROLET BUICK GMC

APRIL IS EVEN BETTER!

UP TO $750 STUDENT BONUS CASH

UP TO $1000 CANADIAN FORCES ALLOWANCE

UP TO $1,600 MORE TRUCK PKG. CREDIT SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS

PLUS MAXIMUM DISCOUNTS

UP TO $10,000*** DEALER CASH

FROM ZERO%** FINANCING 84 MTH / LEASING 48 MTH

UP TO $2,000 GM CARD ALLOWANCE

UP TO $1,500 LOYALTY CREDITS ENDS APRIL 30, 2015

BRAND NEW AWARD WINNING 2015 CHEVY CRUZE 1LT TURBO

HUGE SELECTION

UPTO 45 MPG HWY EST

XM RADIO 3 MTHS FREE

ONLY $1995 DOWN STK #24919

FINANCING FROM **$115 BI-WEEKLY 84 MTHS AT 0%

LEASING FROM *$103 BI-WEEKLY 48 MTHS AT 0%

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY OR LEASE A CHEVROLET

SPECIAL 24 MTH CHEVY LEASE

2 YEAR FREE ONSTAR / 2YEAR FREE XM RADIO / 2 YEAR FREE OIL CHANGES

COME CHECK IT OUT! BRAND NEW 2015 CHEVY TRAX LS

UPTO 40 MPG HWY EST

ONLY $1995 DOWN STK# 25044

FINANCING FROM **$124 BI-WEEKLY 84 MTHS AT 0.99%

LEASING FROM *$127 BI-WEEKLY 48 MTHS AT 0.5%

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY OR LEASE A CHEVROLET

SPECIAL 24 MTH CHEVY LEASE

2 YEAR FREE ONSTAR / 2YEAR FREE XM RADIO / 2 YEAR FREE OIL CHANGES

BRAND NEW 2015 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LS

UPTO 39 MPG HWY EST

ONLY $1995 DOWN STK# 25153

FINANCING FROM **$149 BI-WEEKLY 84 MTHS AT 0.99%

LEASING FROM *$156 BI-WEEKLY 48 MTHS AT 0.9%

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY OR LEASE A CHEVROLET

SPECIAL 24 MTH CHEVY LEASE

2 YEAR FREE ONSTAR / 2YEAR FREE XM RADIO / 2 YEAR FREE OIL CHANGES

BRAND NEW 2015 CHEVROLET SONIC LS

TAKE IT FOR A TEST DRIVE!

UPTO 42 MPG HWY EST

STK# 24656

ONLY $1995 DOWN

FINANCING FROM **$95 BI-WEEKLY 84 MTHS AT 0%

LEASING FROM *$97 BI-WEEKLY 48 MTHS AT 0%

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY OR LEASE A CHEVROLET

SPECIAL 24 MTH CHEVY LEASE

2 YEAR FREE ONSTAR / 2YEAR FREE XM RADIO / 2 YEAR FREE OIL CHANGES

BRAND NEW 2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU 1LT

UPTO 44 MPG HWY EST

ONLY $1995 DOWN STK# 25246

FINANCING FROM **$137 BI-WEEKLY 84 MTHS AT 0%

LEASING FROM *$142 BI-WEEKLY 48 MTHS AT 0.5%

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY OR LEASE A CHEVROLET

SPECIAL 24 MTH CHEVY LEASE

2 YEAR FREE ONSTAR / 2YEAR FREE XM RADIO / 2 YEAR FREE OIL CHANGES

BRAND NEW 2015 CHEVROLET CAMARO 1 LT

UPTO 32 MPG HWY EST

STK# 24777

0% FINANCING UP TO 84 MONTH'S OR $4,500 CASH CREDIT

BRAND NEW 2015 BUICK VERANO SEDAN

"BUICK" TOPS IN SAFETY

UPTO 38 MPG HWY EST

ONLY $1995 DOWN STK# 24933

FINANCING FROM **$131 BI-WEEKLY 84 MTHS AT 0.99%

LEASING FROM *$112 BI-WEEKLY 48 MTHS AT 0.5%

BUICK EXCLUSIVE... 6 YEAR / 110,000 KM POWER TRAIN WARRANTY AND ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

BRAND NEW 2015 BUICK ENCORE FWD (LEATHER PKG)

UPTO 35 MPG HWY EST

BUICK'S 5 STAR SAFETY SCORE

ONLY $1995 DOWN STK# 24935

FINANCING FROM **$193 BI-WEEKLY 84 MTHS AT 0.99%

LEASING FROM *$211 BI-WEEKLY 48 MTHS AT 0.5%

BUICK EXCLUSIVE... 6 YEAR / 110,000 KM POWER TRAIN WARRANTY AND ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

2015 AWARD WINNING COLORADO AND CANYON FINANCING OR LEASING FROM 0.99%

AWARD WINNING TRUCKS

GMC

NEW 2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO & GMC SIERRA P/U

From "0% FINANCING & LEASING UP TO $10,000*** IN CREDITS!

CHEVY SILVERADO...THE MOST DEPENDABLE LONG LASTING FULL SIZE PICK UP IN CANADA & USA Δ

SEE DAVIDS FOR DETAILS

WINNER OF THE 2015 TRIBUNES READERS CHOICE AWARDS

SINCE 1991 DAVID CHEVROLET CORVETTE BUICK GMC WELLAND

#1 Winner of the 2015 Reader's Choice Award

915 Niagara Street, Welland, ON

PH 905-735-3690 • FAX 905-735-0507

www.davidchev.com • info@davidchev.com • www.davidchevpreowned.com

Niagara School of Music

905-325-0517

735 S Pelham Road, Welland

www.niagaraschoolofmusic.com

Seniors age 55+ Music Course Begins in April 2015

Peer Pleasure!

- Keyboard Repertoire enables the student to experience the joy of musical expression through playing the keyboard
- Make new friends or bring a friend
- Share your favourite music with the class under the experienced guidance of your teacher

Next Class starts - Tuesday April 14,2015 • 11am

Lesson Length: 1 hour
Course Length: 10 week modules - ongoing
Group Size: 4 - 6 students
Tuition Fees: $90 per 10 week module
Text book: $12.00

Call or visit our website for ongoing classes for 2 year olds to seniors

Authorized Yamaha Music School

Like us on Facebook

ONLINE Get breaking news as it happens.
www.pelhamnews.ca

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/PelhamNews

LOCALNEWS

■ HEALTH CARE

Health Minister confident in Smith

ALLAN BENNER
QMI Agency Niagara

Responding to a scathing report on Niagara's hospital restructuring plans, Ontario's health minister and local physicians are defending the Niagara Health System's chief executive officer.

After the Ontario Health Coalition published a report by British international health policy expert John Lister, a senior lecturer on health policy from Coventry University in England, provincial Health Minister Dr. Eric Hoskins as well as NHS chief of staff Dr. Tom Stewart both released statements expressing their confidence in the direction of Kevin Smith's 2012 supervisors report that recommended closing five Niagara hospitals and replacing them with a single new hospital site to be constructed in Niagara Falls.

"We want to make sure that our hospitals are providing the best care possible for Ontarians. That's why we appointed Dr. Kevin Smith to put Niagara Health Services in a strong position to deliver high quality health care for Niagara patients," Hoskins said.

In his 15-page review, Lister identified a lack of public consultation as a major flaw in Smith's original report.

But Hoskins said there was substantial consultation in Smith's report.

"I am confident in the work that Dr. Smith did, which included speaking with thousands of community members and health care workers," Hoskins said.

Meanwhile, he said progress is continuing to be made towards the implementation of Smith's recommendations.

"Our government is providing NHS with $26.2-million to plan for a new hospital in Niagara Falls and two urgent care centres, as proposed by Dr. Smith's report," he said.

After speaking with his fellow physicians at NHS hospitals, Stewart said plans will enhance the quality of hospital services.

"As NHS chief of staff I speak on behalf of our physician department leaders, noting Dr. Smith's report provides a strong foundation for the overall improvement of healthcare in Niagara," Stewart said.

"With regard to patient experience and quality, as well as doctor recruitment and work life, we are headed in the right direction. A new site in Niagara Falls can only improve the situation, and there is tremendous excitement at the renewal of our system underway."

allan.benner@sunmedia.ca

COMMISSO'S FRESH FOODS

California
Sweet Seedless Navel Oranges
Product of USA
.49/lb
1.08/kg

Fresh
Tomatoes on the Vine
Product of Ontario
.99/lb
2.18/kg

GROWN in NIAGARA

Foodland ONTARIO

Fresh
NY Strip Loin *or* Boneless Prime Rib Grilling Steaks
Family Pack
9.99/lb
22.02/kg

Fresh Ontario Pork
Breast Bone Removed
Lean & Meaty Pork Side Ribs
Family Pack
Foodland ONTARIO
2.49/lb
5.49/kg

Fresh Family Pack
Combination Pork Loin Chops
(3 rib, 2 centre cut)
Foodland ONTARIO
2.49/lb
5.49/kg

Danone
Activia Yogurt
Assorted Varieties
SAVE $3.00
4.99
12x100g

Beatrice
Chocolate Milk
.99
1L
LESS THAN 1/2 PRICE

Fresh Store Made
Mild, Hot *or* Fennel Italian Sausage
Family Pack
3.99/lb
8.80/kg

Chapman's
Gelato
Assorted Varieties
SAVE $1.50
3.99
1.5L

Colavita
Extra Virgin Olive Oil
8.99
1L

1/2 PRICE

La Molisana
Pasta
Assorted Varieties
.99
450g

Commisso's Store Made
Fresh or Frozen
100% Beef Patties *or* BBQ Style Burgers
Starting from
5.99/lb
13.21/kg

Want to see even more savings? Visit CommissosFreshFoods.com and click on the flyer icon to see all of our weekly specials!

Sale prices in effect Friday April 10 through Thursday April 16, 2015

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
10	11	12	13	14	15	16

6161 Thorold Stone Rd., Niagara Falls, ON
Mon-Fri 7am-8pm • Sat 7am-7pm • Sun 8am-6pm

LOCALNEWS

helping good people build smart and caring communities

Dr. Valerie Jaeger is a praven cammunity leader and dedicated physicion who hos made o commitment to the health ond well-being of Niogoro's residents. She olso understonds how sacial and ecanamic canditians shape peaple's appartunities to improve their heolth. "It is importont thot oll sectors of aur cammunity invest in health-supparting actians ta create enviranments that suppart increased prasperity and persanal well-being."

The Niagora Cammunity Foundation's HEALTH & WELL-BEING FUND FOR NIAGARA *supparts initiatives that imprave the heolth ond wellbeing of Niagara's residents, bath naw and in the future.* GIVE US A CALL AT 905-684-8688 *to jain athers who believe investing in health to build a stranger Niagara.*

NIAGARA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

niagaracommunityfoundation.org

This od sponsored by THE TRIBUNE

■ **CRIME:** Associations want tougher penalties to deter attacks

Paramedics seek protection

ALISON LANGLEY
QMI Agency Niagara

Niagara first responders support a push by the Ontario Paramedic Association to have special laws or penalties in place to help protect first responders from violence on the job.

"One of the most traumatic things that can happen to a paramedic is being attacked while trying to help somebody," said Rick Ferron, deputy chief of Niagara Emergency Medical Services.

He said there have been several incidents this year where paramedics have been off work due to injuries related to being assaulted.

He said Niagara EMS would support any changes to legislation that would protect first responders.

Shane Eickmann, public relations director with the Niagara Paramedic Association, said the local association also supports legislative change.

"We're fully in support of what they're pushing for," he said. "We've been saying this for years."

Following a pair of recent attacks on Ottawa paramedic crews, the Ontario Paramedic Association announced this week it wants to have special laws or penalties in place to help protect first responders.

Geoff MacBride, president of the organization which represents paramedics across the province, said paramedics constantly face threats or displays of violence.

"The Ontario Paramedic Association is very keen on seeing legislative change that makes assaulting a paramedic exactly the same as assaulting a police officer," said MacBride.

He said ideally, the association would like to see both carry the same punishment.

"And that is jail time."

"We're going to be taking an active role in the coming months in ensuring some sort of legislative change, and some education to the paramedics to make sure these acts are addressed appropriately," he said.

"Because if they're not, the message that's sent is that assaulting a paramedic is acceptable, and it absolutely is not."

The Niagara Falls Fire Department also supports any legislation that would protect the safety of all first responders and provide deterrents to offenders, said Fire Chief Lee Smith.

"All first responders including fire and EMS should be included as we respond to medical calls and also have experienced incidents during fire responses," he said.

"Any responder — whether it be a nurse, a paramedic, a firefighter or a police officer — should be protected from violence in the workplace," Fort Erie Fire Chief Larry Coplen added.

In Niagara, paramedics receive training on how to assess and avoid possible violent situations. They also have panic alarms on their portable radios and dispatch checks in with paramedics on a regular basis when they're at a call.

A recent study published in the *Journal of Emergency Medical Services* revealed paramedics are exposed to verbal abuse, intimidation, physical assault, sexual harassment and sexual assault.

Of the more than 1,800 paramedics from Ontario and Nova Scotia who participated in the survey, 75% reported experiencing one or more violent episodes during the past year.

The most common form of violence was verbal assault, while 26% reported being physically assaulted.

MacBride said paramedics face violent calls daily due to the nature of their work. "Paramedics role in our community is to help people on the worst day of their lives," he added.

"In doing that, (they) should never be victims to violence."

– With files from QMI Agency

alison.langley@sunmedia.ca
Twitter @nfallslangley

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/PelhamNews

Prices in effect until April 14th, 2015, while quantities last.

GIANT TIGER

your saveoneverything store

20 Hwy 20 E, Fonthill

Store hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 am to 9 pm
Sat. 8 am to 6 pm • Sun. 9 am to 6 pm

Join us!

WATCH, PIN, POST, LIKE, FOLLOW OR TWEET

GIANT TIGER

GIANT TIGER, TIGRE GÉANT, TIGER HEAD DESIGNS AND OTHER TRADEMARKS IN THIS AD ARE REGISTERED AND UNREGISTERED CANADIAN TRADEMARKS OF GIANT TIGER STORES LIMITED AND ARE LICENSED TO ITS FRANCHISEES.

LOCALNEWS

LIFE MAY NOT BE PERFECT, BUT YOUR COMFORT CAN BE.

The Ultimate Comfort System™ is a ground-breaking home heating and cooling system that makes perfection possible.

RECEIVE UP TO A $1,400 REBATE*

plus up to a $100 iHarmony™ add-on* with the purchase of a qualifying Lennox® system

AND

RECEIVE UP TO $650 IN OPA REBATES!

$10 OFF CLEAN AND SERVICE!**

VA Hoffman
Plumbing Heating & Sheet Metal
393 Killaly St. E., Port Colborne, ON L3K 1P6
905-834-3783

OFFER EXPIRES 6/12/2015.
*Rebate offer is valid only with the purchase of qualifying Lennox products. System rebate offers range from $250 – $1,800. ¹Visit https://saveonenergy.ca/Consumer/Programs/HVAC-Rebates.aspx for more information on the application process and list of qualifying heating and cooling equipment.
**See your participating Lennox dealer for details. Lennox dealers include independently owned and operated businesses. © 2015 Lennox Industries, Inc.

■ AWARDS

Brock University unveils scholarships

DON FRASER
QMI Agency Niagara

A scholarship-driven effort is underway to try to keep Niagara's best students in the region.

Brock University is handing out more than 50 of the annual awards to graduating high school students.

The Niagara Principal's Scholarship recognizes two students from each of Niagara's secondary schools who best demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and an exceptional commitment to school and community.

"We're really hoping to encourage people to stay in the region, and take advantage of the education they can receive at Brock," said Rico Natale, Brock's director of student awards and financial aid.

As part of the awards, secondary school principals in Niagara choose up to two candidates from their school to receive the award. The criteria is based on both academic achievement and the students' community. Those chosen students will each get $2,500 entrance scholarships.

"This program puts us a little bit closer to the high schools," said Natale. "The partnership with us and the local secondary schools is important, as they know the students the best and who best fits the (award) criteria."

He said the university gets scholarship applications through other regular processes — amounting to thousands every year.

"With this particular approach, we get a better sense with that recommendation from the high schools and they know who their top performers are from first-hand knowledge," Natale said.

A second initiative announced by Brock aims to boost university accessibility for young Niagarans on social assistance.

That program allows eligible students to take specific courses part time at Brock while continuing to receive support through Ontario Works.

Tuition will be waived by the university, and students will be considered for programs to help with books, transportation and other related costs of attending Brock.

It will focus on youth identified through the Niagara Region Bursary Program and Ontario Works caseworkers.

don.fraser@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @don_standard

Niagara Auto Sales

2010 GMC CANYON CREW 4X4 — $18,995
It's Black, Big Juicy Tires, Sit's Up Nice! Nice! Nice! Truck! Call Us Today!

2011 CHEVY LT 4X4 — $18,995
5.3L Vortec, Super Clean and It Sounds Even Better! Own This 4x4 with As Low As $100 Down! Call Us Today!

2011 DODGE RAM CREW 4X4 — $21,995
Hemi Power SLT Package! She's A Looker! Fantastic Price. Buy Me Today!

2007 CHEV AVALANCHE LT 4X4 — $16,995
5.3 Vortec, Fully Loaded! Power Sunroof Nice Colour! Good Looking Truck! Trades Always Welcome! Call Us Today!

2009 DODGE NITRO 4X4 — $13,274
V6 Automatic, Sport Package! Nice Low Kms, Super Clean, Nice to Drive! We Finance Here! Call Us Today!

2000 GMC YUKON SLT 4X4 — $6,995
5.3 L Vortec 7 Passenger, Leather Interior! Higher KMS But Fantastic Shape! Great For the Family! Call Us Today to Arrange Your Personal Test Drive!

WE FINANCE • PURCHASE AS LOW $100 DOWN

2003 DODGE LITTLE SHORTY — $8,995
Great Body! Good Runner! Where Do We Find These! Trades Welcome. We Finance. Call Us Today!

2008 BUICK ALLURE CXL — $8,995
Top of The Line. Pleasure To Drive. 4 New Tires, Heated Leather Interior. Take a Look On Sale. Call US Today!

2007 NISSAN VERSA SE — $7,634
Little Automatic Hatchback. Nice Low Kms and Super Low Payments. Purchase as Low $100 Down. Call us Today!

2009 JEEP COMPASS SPORT — $8,995
4 Cyl Automatic, Comes with Some Power Features. Dynamite Little SUV! And Super Low Monthly Pmts. Call Us Today!

2005 FORD F150 EXT. 4X4 — $12,995
Buckets And Console Shift, Fx4 Package. Awesome Low kms Nice Truck! Trades Welcome! Home Of The Truck Specialists!

2008 GMC CREW 4X4 — $19,995
Dynamite 1500 Short Box. Come See the Truck Specialists Welland! We Finance. Call us Today!

2006 HUMMER SUT TRUCK — $23,995
It's The Biggie! 4x4 and excellent condition! Navigation, Perfect. Purchase as Low $100 down. Call Us Today

2008 DODGE RAM CREW 4X4 — $16,995
SXT Package Crew Cab. New Tires Great Body. Tow PKG. Purchase as low $100 Down!

2008 FORD F350 DIESEL — DIESEL — $15,995
Regular Cab 2WD, Super Duty, Great Looking Diesel! Trades Always Welcome. Call us Today!

2003 CHEV DIESEL 4X4 — DIESEL — $15,995
EXT Long Box 2500 HD LT. Super Low KMS, Dynamite! Leather Interior. Top of the Line. Purchase as low $100 Down!

2007 FORD DIESEL 4X4 — DIESEL — $19,995
FX4 Package Crew Cab, Super Clean with Low KMS. Big Flares Big Truck. Purchase as low $100 Down!

1992 FORD ALLEGRO BAY 29" — $13,995
Self Contained with a Generator, Sleeps 5-6. New Tires. Large Rear Bedroom. Super Clean. Trades Welcome. We Finance Call Us Today!

TOLL FREE 1-888-329-5639 • WWW.NIAGARAAUTOSALES.COM • 1031 NIAGARA ST., N. WELLAND

Niagara AUCTION RETURNS

Monday, April 13 to Thursday, April 16

Everything Must Go!

We have

TV's • Home Audio • Car Audio • Telephones • Recliners • Loveseats • Sofas • TV Stands • Clothing Gift Cards • Green Fees • Golf Memberships • Attractions • Vacations • Flooring • Dining Gift Cards • Beauty Products • Appliances • BBQs • Home & Garden Equipment • Health Products

www.wellandtribune.ca/auction

Brought to you by

NIAGARA FALLS REVIEW

The Standard

THE TRIBUNE

LOCALNEWS

■ **WELLAND CANAL:** Tribune Facebook post leads to owner's identity within minutes

Dog rescued on ice south of Lock 8

GREG FURMINGER
QMI Agency Niagara

The tale of a two-year-old Siberian husky trapped on the Welland Canal in Port Colborne came to a happy ending.

Within minutes of the story and photos about the troubled canine being posted the *The Tribune's* Facebook page Saturday morning, Star's owner was tracked down by friends.

Crystal Derraugh's beloved companion wandered off from her Erie St. home, about a kilometre away, when she had slipped away to the store at about 8:30 p.m. Friday.

Welland and District Humane Society called for the assistance of Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services just before 8:30 a.m. Saturday after Star was spotted in the snowy ice of the canal just south of Lock 8.

Despite rescue attempts by Port Colborne firefighters, it was hoped that Star would make her own way to higher ground.

The dog barked occasionally as it ran up and down the ice nearby the Great Lakes ship *Baie Comeau*, which has been tied up in the canal over winter.

Firefighters put ladders down both east and west canal walls, and one tethered firefighter in a water rescue suit ventured onto the icy surface in hopes of luring the dog with treats.

"He was afraid of us," Port Colborne Fire Chief Tom Cartwright said of the canine.

The presence of firefighters along the canal banks, plus humane society officials and others, seemed to make the dog nervous, and the dogs would often run to other spots along the canal walls in search of an escape route.

Cartwright said firefighters didn't want to panic the dog into heading toward open water near the Clarence St. bridge.

So they grabbed construction materials from the fire hall just opposite from where the dog was trapped and fashioned a ramp. It was secured and dropped into the canal at a spot firefighters typically do their water rescue training.

Firefighters cleared the scene just past 9:30 a.m. having left the dog with the tools it needed to make it to freedom.

"He's relatively safe," Cartwright said.

"We put lots of food down there, and hopefully she'll be able to find her own way out."

Well, as it turned out, when the story about the dog was posted to *The Tribune's* Facebook page, it took just minutes to catch the attention of Derraugh's friend, Sharon McSweyn.

"I saw it on Facebook and called (Derraugh) right away," she said following a successful rescue.

As Derraugh was choking back tears when approached by *The Tribune*, firefighters returned and led her toward the ramp they had left for Star.

Cartwright said it was "an unusual set of circumstances" that led firefighters to outfit Derraugh with a life vest, safety harness, ropes and helmet to assist in getting Star reunited with her owner. She climbed the canal wall on a fixed ladder to a dock.

"We don't like to do these types of things, but we took all the safety measures involved," the chief said.

Firefighters, he said, could have spent hours trying to coax the dog to safety, but knew it could be done in short order with the owner.

"As soon as she went down, the dog came right to her."

The dog was leashed then led up the ramp by firefighter Mike Radzikoski.

Derraugh said her dog was "exhausted" but otherwise in great shape after her ordeal.

"She's fine, she's happy she's with me now," she said before the dog gave her sloppy kisses.

She was impressed by the swift impact Facebook played in Saturday's reunion just before 12:30 p.m.

"Social media — just go, go, go," she said.

greg.furminger@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @GregAtTheTrib

STAMFORD FIREPLACES
BBQ Promo
Spring Is Finally Here
Visit Our Showroom To See The Latest In Lynx & Weber BBQ'S
SALE ENDS APRIL 25TH

Stop By Sat. April 18th From 11 AM - 3 PM Meet The Lynx Rep Try Out The New Lynx BBQ's For Yourself. BRING YOUR APPETITE!
LYNX PROFESSIONAL GRILLS
weber

STAMFORD FIREPLACES
6997 OAKWOOD DR., NIAGARA FALLS, ON.
905-356-2922
NEW LOCATION
Monday - Wednesday 9:00am-6:00pm • Thursday & Friday 9:00am-8:00pm • Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm • Sunday CLOSED

WATCH THE VIDEO
pelhamnews.ca
ONLINE PHOTOS
pelhamnews.ca
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/PelhamNews

Classifieds

pelhamnews.ca/classifieds

Phone: 1-866-541-6757 • Fax: 1-866-485-8461 • Email: pelhamnews.classifieds@sunmedia.ca

Appliance Repair

Appliance Repair

Clock Repairs

All makes and models, guaranteed workmanship, pick-up and delivery, specializing in Grandfather clocks.

(905) 935-1962

Apartments

2 BDRMS avail. Large quiet mature living. Balc., ldry, sec ent. close to Maple park, bus/shopping. Starting at $989 579 Clare Ave Call 1-905-735-5748

81 Empire St. Welland 1BR Quiet 12 unit building with balcony with mature tenants. $760.00 Bills pd. Avail. June 1st (905) 734-7628

Houses for Rent

White Avenue 2 BR/1 BA, Main floor, includes all appliances $1,100/mo (289) 347-5335

Carpet/Flooring

CARPETDEALS.CA

I have several thousand yards of new Stainmaster and 100% nylon carpet. I will carpet your living room for $389. Price incl. carpet, pad and installation. (25 yds) STEVE 905-682-5320

1-888-786-7821

Call us to get your items SOLD in the Classifieds

yourlifemoments.ca

Marking your milestones.

For Obituaries call:
1-877-750-5054
Fax: 1-866-485-8461
e-mail: obituaries@yourlifemoments.ca

All other moments call:
1-888-786-7821
Fax: 1-866-757-0227
e-mail: milestones.sun@yourlifemoments.ca

Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks
Births | Celebrations | More

Obituaries

Obituaries

TEMPLE, Ronald John Guy (Ron) - Passed away at McNally House, on Tuesday, March 31, 2015, in his 81st year. Beloved husband of Barbara (nee Saunders) for 58 years. Loved father of Lynda Ball and her husband Allan, Stephen Temple and his wife Karen and Mark Temple and his wife Wendy. Cherished grandfather of Christopher, Stephanie, Alexander, Nigel and Hayden. He will also be dearly missed by many other family members and friends. Ron was a member of I.B.E.W. Local 105 for over 55 years. The family is very grateful and thanks everyone at McNally House for their tremendous support. Cremation has taken place. A Service of Remembrance took place at Trinity United Church, 100 Main Street West, Grimsby on Saturday, April 4, 2015, at 11 a.m. with visitation one hour prior. If desired, memorial contributions to McNally House would be sincerely appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to **STONEHOUSE-WHITCOMB FUNERAL HOME, GRIMSBY**, 905-945-2755.
www.smithsfh.com
"... and the tool box is closed."

Sell it now!

Looking for more exposure?

Try an online ad

Place an ad today!
1-888-786-7821
PelhamNews.ca/Classifieds

Local. Easy. Sold.

LAMPMANS FURNITURE

Over 20,000 sq. ft. of Quality Furniture.....

Collins Sofa

TAX IN WEEKEND

Thursday April 9th to Sunday April 12th

Jasper Chaise Rocker Recliner

Lawrence Chaise Rocker Recliner

Corner Chaise Rocker Recliner

Devon Sectional

LAZBOY | ComfortStudio®

Lampman Furniture
728 Canboro Road
Fenwick, ON

905.892.4701
www.lampmanfurniture.com

Hunter is our Lazyboy.
Which Lazyboy are you taking home today?